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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Patton et al.

Application No.: 10/010,954

Filed: November 30, 2001

Title: IMPROVED CLAMSHELL APPRATUS  
WITH DYNAMIC UNIFORMITY CONTROL

Attorney Docket No.:  
NOVLP025/NVLS-000433

Examiner: ~~Leader~~  
~~1741~~

Group: ~~Not yet assigned~~

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Commissioner for  
Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on January 2, 2002.

Signed:

Tara Hayden

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

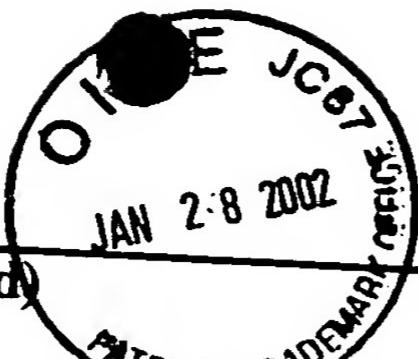
Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. NVLSP025).

Respectfully submitted,  
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP  
  
Brian D. Griedel  
Registration No. 48,425

P.O. Box 778  
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778



Form 1449 (Modified)

Information Disclosure  
Statement By Applicant

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

Atty Docket No.

NOVLP025

Applicant:

Patton et al.

Filing Date

November 30, 2001

Application No.:

10/010,954

Group

Not yet assigned

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	A	6,159,354	12/12/00	Contolini et al.			
	B	6,162,344	12/19/00	Reid et al.			
	C	6,110,346	08/29/00	Reid et al.			
	D	6,074,544	06/13/00	Reid et al.			
	E	6,156,167	12/05/00	Patton et al.			
	F	6,139,712	10/31/00	Patton et al.			
	G	6,099,702	08/08/00	Reid et al.			
	H	6,126,798	10/03/00	Reid et al.			
	I	6,179,983 B1	01/30/01	Reid et al.			
	J	6,274,008 B1	08/14/01	Gopalraja et al.			
	K	6,277,249 B1	08/21/01	Gopalraja et al.			
	L	6,251,242 B1	06/26/01	Fu et al.			
	M	5,221,449	06/22/93	Colgan et al.			
	N	6,124,203	09/26/00	Joo et al.			
	O	5,281,485	01/25/94	Colgan et al.			
	P	6,221,757 B1	04/24/01	Schmidbauer et al.			
	Q	5,985,762	11/16/99	Geffken et al.			
	R	6,217,716 B1	04/17/01	Fai Lai			
	S	6,193,854 B1	02/27/01	Lai et al.			
	T	6,179,973 B1	01/30/01	Lai et al.			
	U	5,482,611	01/09/96	Helmer et al.			

**Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application**

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation Yes	Translation No

**Other Documents**

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication	Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.